



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

FR
Argentina

August 4, 1977

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MEMORANDUM

TO : Patt Derian
THROUGH: Mark Schneider
FROM : Ellis O. Jones

SUBJECT: "E-Systems" Potential Request to Export
Computer Aided Dispatch Equipment for
Argentina's Santa Fe Province Police

NO - NOT NOW - too much boiling in the internal struggle & were more - too closely identified with internal security activities in 6 mos. year

"E-Systems", a Dallas Texas based computer and electronics firm, claims that it will be asking the Commerce Department for a permit to export radio and computer equipment to the Santa Fe Province Police in Argentina. The contact is J. R. Coupe, Senior Business Planning Specialist, P.O. Box 6118, Dallas, Texas 75222. The equipment, which would be exported over a period of eighteen months, would be installed by E-Systems in Argentina. The total value of the contract is about \$5.5 million.

The system would extend a system which E-Systems sold in 1974 to the Federal Police in Buenos Aires and which was only recently completed. The system has the capability of transmitting to squad cars equipped with Cathode Ray Tube receivers information from a data base which would include basic vital statistics about arrested persons and stolen vehicles so that apprehended persons and stopped vehicles can be checked for previous records. E-Systems claims that this system makes it less necessary for police to make actual arrests and detentions on suspicion because fundamental information can be checked without the necessity of bringing alleged offenders into headquarters. The system also is capable of keeping track on a moment-by-moment basis of the position of vehicles which are identified and equipped with appropriate transmission equipment. The American firm

Department of State, A/GIS/PS/SRP

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alleges that the Argentina police need such a system so that constant watch can be kept on persons and vehicles which may be the target of terrorist attacks, such as the cabinet minister's vehicles. The firm claims that the American Embassy in Argentina has at least considered the possibility of asking that the Ambassador's vehicle be included in this system.

I indicated to the representatives of the firm that I was extremely doubtful that such an export license would be granted at this time in view of the present human rights situation in Argentina, but that I would inform interested persons of the company's position on the efficacy of their equipment and their view that there is very little direct relationship between the intended use of this equipment and the types of violations which are alleged to be the center of the problem in Argentina. I further said I would stress the importance which the Argentina police attribute to this equipment in the real battle which Argentine authorities are waging against terrorism.

CC: Mr. Zimmerman - ARA/ECA
Mr. Root - EB/ITD/EWT

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attachments not copied (promo material from company)